

Appl. No. 09/895,027
Reply Dated Mar. 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Dec. 1, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for use in contact with a target surface, comprising:
 - a. a liquid permeable porous substrate having a contacting surface and an opposing surface disposed oppositely thereto, wherein the substrate has a thickness of "Z" as measured from the contacting surface to the opposing surface; and
 - b. a beneficial component releasably disposed on at least a portion of the contacting surface; and
 - c. ~~means for minimizing migration of the beneficial component into the porous substrate~~ wherein the beneficial component comprises at least a first layer and a second layer, whereby the ratio of the quantity of the beneficial component present on or within the thickness between 0 and Z/3 of the substrate is at least about 2.2 times the quantity of the component within the thickness between 2Z/3 and Z of the substrate until the time of the use of the article.
2. (Original) The article of Claim 1, wherein the beneficial component comprises members selected from the group consisting of cleaning components, waxing components, and polishing components and where the article is intended for use on an inanimate surface.
3. (Original) The article of Claim 1, wherein the beneficial component comprises members selected from the group consisting of skin conditioning components, hair conditioning components, cosmetic components, and where the article is intended for use on an animate surface.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The article of Claim 1, wherein the beneficial component which comprises at least a first layer and a second layer, wherein at least one layer is relatively hydrophilic and at least one layer is relatively hydrophobic ~~comprises two or more layers which comprise at least one relatively hydrophilic layer and at least one relatively hydrophobic layer.~~
6. (Original) The article of Claim 1, wherein the beneficial component comprises an additive selected from the group consisting of pH stabilizers, vitamins, petrolatum, zinc oxide, hexamidine diisethionate, chamomile, tocopherol acetate, aloe extract, lanolin, enzyme inhibitors, surfactants, colorants, anti-microbials, kaolin, and mixtures thereof.
7. (Original) The article of Claim 1, wherein the article is an absorbent article selected from the

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- group consisting of training pants, feminine napkins, pantliners, incontinence garments, breast pads or intra labial devices.
8. (Original) The article of Claim 1, wherein the article is a product selected from the group consisting of buffs, bandages, mops, cloths, wipes, sponges, or other flexible dispensing means intended for use on inanimate objects.
 9. (Original) An article comprising a contacting surface having a beneficial component disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the beneficial composition comprises a first layer and a second layer and wherein:
 - a. the first layer is disposed on the contacting surface;
 - b. the second layer is disposed on the first layer; and
 - c. the first layer makes up between about 5% and about 95% of the beneficial component.
 10. (Original) The article of Claim 9, wherein the article is an absorbent article selected from the group consisting of training pants, feminine napkins, pantliners, incontinence garments, hemorrhoid pads, breast pads or intra labial devices.
 11. (Original) The article of Claim 9, wherein the first layer is relatively hydrophilic and is disposed on the body contacting surface and the second layer is relatively hydrophobic and is disposed on the first layer.
 12. (Original) The article of Claim 11, wherein the article is the topsheet of an absorbent article, the absorbent article further comprising:
 - a. a liquid impermeable backsheet; and
 - b. an absorbent core positioned between the topsheet and the backsheet.
 13. (Original) The article of Claim 9, further comprising a third layer disposed on at least a portion of the second layer.
 14. (Original) The article of Claim 9, wherein the difference in solubility parameters between the first layer and the second layer is less than or equal to two.
 15. (Original) The article of Claim 14 wherein:
 - a. the first layer comprises members selected from the group consisting of petrolatum, stearyl alcohol, and fumed silica; and
 - b. the second layer comprises members selected from the group consisting of petrolatum, stearyl alcohol, fumed silica, and zinc oxide.
 16. (Original) A method for Top-Biasing a composition on a porous substrate, the method comprising the following steps:
 - a. applying a first layer of a relatively hydrophilic component on the porous substrate;
 - b. applying a second layer of a relatively hydrophobic component on the relatively hydrophilic component; and

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- c. allowing the first layer and second layer to simultaneously cool on the substrate without the formation of an emulsion.
17. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the relatively hydrophilic component is selected from the group consisting of glycerin, glycols, diols, urea, sodium chloride, water, and mixtures thereof.
18. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the relatively hydrophilic component comprises a mixture of glycerin and water and wherein the relatively hydrophobic component comprises a mixture selected from the group consisting of petrolatum, stearyl alcohol, aloe solution, zinc oxide, fumed silica, and mixtures thereof.
19. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the relatively hydrophobic component is selected from the group consisting of petrolatum, stearyl alcohol, behenyl alcohol, mineral oil, silicone, lanolin, and mixtures thereof.
20. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the hydrophilic component comprises a volatile intermediary.
21. (New) The article of Claim 1, wherein the first layer comprises a volatile base lotion such that the first layer dissipates subsequent to application of the second layer.